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### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PIMA

State of Arizona, ex rel. Thomas C. Horne, Attorney General,

Plaintiff

LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC., an Arizona Limited

Liability Company; LAPLACITA MULTI

Liability Company; MARIA BELTRAN and FRANCISCO RAMOS, residents of the state of

SERVICES, LLC., an Arizona Limited

Arizona, individually and as a marital community; ABC CORPORATIONS One

COMPANIES One Through Ten;

G20124738 Case No.

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VS.

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Defendants.

Through Ten; and XYZ LIMITED LIABILITY

VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE AND OTHER RELIEF

(Unclassified Civil)

Charles Harrington

Plaintiff State of Arizona ex rel. Thomas C. Horne, Attorney General ("the State"). by and through its counsel undersigned, brings this action pursuant to the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, A.R.S. § 44-1521 et. seq., and Arizona's Foreclosure Consultant Statute at A.R.S. § 44-1378 et seq., to obtain injunctive relief, civil penalties, attorney's fees and costs, investigative expenses and other relief to prevent the unlawful acts and

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practices alleged in the Complaint and to remedy the consequences of such unlawful practices. The State alleges as follows:

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This case involves a loan modification scheme perpetrated by Defendants to the detriment of Arizona consumers in financial distress at a time when these consumers are in danger of losing their homes. Defendants La Paz Source, LLC, Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos: (i) attracted consumers by representing that they were fully licensed and bonded when they operated without proper licensure; (ii) charged exorbitant upfront fees for mortgage loan modification services in violation of state and federal law; (iii) exploited consumers' language barriers; (iv) failed to fulfill promises they made to consumers that Defendants would prevent foreclosure and obtain loan modifications for consumers; (v) gave detrimental advice to consumers to stop paying their mortgage, and to stop communicating with their lender/servicer; (vi) failed to render goods and services for which consumers had paid Defendants; and (vii) ardently refused to furnish duly owed refunds.

In an effort to evade state and federal laws regarding mortgage loan modification services and bans on upfront fees, Defendants created a new company called La Placita Multi Services, LLC and Maria Beltran represented that they also had changed their business model to that of selling a Do-It-Yourself loan modification program. A closer inspection reveals that, while Defendants' contracts represent that they were selling a DIY product that would result in an affordable loan modification, Defendants promised consumers verbally, in Spanish, that Defendants would offer consumers the performance of mortgage loan modification services in the form of technical support and customer service. After Defendants secured payment from the consumer however, Defendants failed to deliver on their promises of mortgage loan modification services beyond filling out and sending a loan modification application to consumers' banks. Furthermore, Defendants failed to deliver on their promises that the DIY product would obtain a favorable loan modification.

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#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 1. Venue is proper in Pima County, Arizona pursuant to A.R.S § 12-401.
- 2. The Superior Court has jurisdiction to enter appropriate orders both prior to and following a determination of liability pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1528.

#### **PARTIES**

- 3. Plaintiff is the State of Arizona, ex. rel. Thomas C. Horne, the Attorney General of Arizona, ("the State") who is authorized to bring this action under the Consumer Fraud Act A.R.S. § 44-1521 et. seq. ("the Act") and A.R.S. § 44-1378 et seq.
- 4. Defendant La Paz Source, LLC (hereinafter "La Paz") was an Arizona limited liability company formed on or about June 10, 2008 by Defendants Francisco Ramos and Maria Beltran (hereinafter "La Paz Defendants").
- 5. Defendant Francisco Ramos, an Arizona resident, acted as incorporator and member/manager of Defendant La Paz.
- 6. La Paz had its principle place of business located at 4750 N. Black Canyon Highway, Suite #302, Phoenix, Arizona 85017.
- 7. Defendant La Paz also had a storefront located at 2012 E. Broadway Boulevard, Suite #101, Tucson, Arizona 85719.
  - 8. Defendant La Paz dissolved as an LLC on November 3, 2011.
- 9. La Paz is currently registered with the Arizona Secretary of State as a registered trade name, file ID No. 436630.
- 10. Defendant La Placita Multi Services, LLC (hereinafter "La Placita") is an Arizona limited liability company with its principal place of business located at 4072 East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tucson, Arizona 85711.
- 11. La Placita was formed on or about November 3, 2011, by Defendant Maria Beltran and Arturo Gomez Leon (Defendants Maria Beltran and La Placita are hereinafter referred to as "La Placita Defendants").

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- 12. Defendant Maria Beltran and Arturo Gomez Leon currently act as the member/managers of La Placita.
- 13. Defendant Maria Beltran, an Arizona resident, acted as incorporator and member/manager of Defendants La Paz and La Placita.
- 14. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendant Maria Beltran was a member and/or manager of Defendants La Paz and La Placita and, acting alone or in concert with others, with actual and/or constructive knowledge, approved, endorsed, ratified, controlled or otherwise participated in the illegal acts and practices alleged herein.
- 15. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendant Francisco Ramos was a member and/or manager of Defendant La Paz and, acting alone or in concert with others, with actual and/or constructive knowledge, approved, endorsed, ratified, controlled or otherwise participated in the illegal acts and practices alleged herein.
- 16. Upon information and belief, Defendants Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos are husband and wife.
- 17. Upon information and belief, Maria Beltran's and Francisco Ramos' actions alleged herein were taken in furtherance of their marital community.
- 18. ABC Corporations one through ten and XYZ Limited Liability Companies one through ten are companies whose identities are currently unknown, but that participated in the acts alleged herein or engaged in other unlawful conduct in connection with Defendants' businesses. Plaintiff respectfully requests leave of this Court to amend this Complaint to join additional Defendants as their identities become known.

### THE LA PAZ AND LA PLACITA CONNECTION

- 19. The State hereby re-alleges paragraphs one through eighteen as if set forth in full herein.
- 20. Defendants Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos formed La Paz on June 10, 2008.

- 21. The La Paz Defendants offered for sale, and sold, services that Defendants represented would prevent or postpone foreclosure and obtain home loan modifications for financially distressed consumers.
- 22. The La Paz Defendants stated that, in or about Fall of 2011, they changed their business model from engaging in loan modification negotiations with lender/servicers on behalf of consumers in distress to a model in which Defendants acted as retailers of a Do-It-Yourself program called MAHA (Making All Homes Affordable, hereinafter "MAHA").
- 23. The La Paz Defendants entered into contracts for the sale of the MAHA program to La Paz consumers for roughly \$2,000 per household, plus a ninety-nine dollar monthly charge for any technical support or customer service required after three months from the execution of the one page MAHA contract (hereinafter MAHA Contract).
- 24. On November 3, 2011, Defendants Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos dissolved La Paz. See Arizona Corporation Commission Files attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 25. On that same day, Defendant Maria Beltran and Arturo Gomez Leon formed La Placita. *Id.*
- 26. Defendant Maria Beltran was one of two member/managers of La Placita. *Id.* 
  - 27. Defendant Francisco Ramos was an employee of La Placita.
- 28. Defendants La Placita, Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos engaged in the sale of services, in the form of the MAHA program.
- 29. Defendants La Placita, Maria Beltran, and Francisco Ramos also offered to transact the sale of services, in the form of technical support and customer service, designed to prevent or postpone foreclosure and obtain home loan modifications for financially distressed consumers.
- 30. When Defendants Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos dissolved La Paz many of the consumers who had entered into contracts with La Paz still had outstanding

balances for fees owed to La Paz for their mortgage loan modification services, their foreclosure consultant services, their mortgage assistance relief services, and/or their participation in the MAHA program.

- 31. Some of the consumers whom La Paz charged upfront fees for mortgage loan modification services never received a loan modification or the provision of all covered services for which they paid.
- 32. Defendant La Paz asked some consumers who were charged upfront fees for mortgage loan modification services to pay an additional fee and sign a "Transition of Service" letter. See Transition of Service Letter attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 33. The "Transition of Service" letter ostensibly seeks to nullify the contract with La Paz and binds the consumer to the MAHA Contract.
- 34. After signing the MAHA contract, consumers were instructed to make all outstanding installment payments called for within the MAHA contract to La Paz.
- 35. The La Paz Defendants stated that when consumers signed a MAHA Contract that the agreement with La Paz Source was completely nullified. See Letter to Fernando S. dated February 3, 2012, p. 1, ¶ 3 Attached Hereto as Exhibit C.
- 36. Other consumers who had outstanding contracts did not know how to contact La Paz, until they found that Defendants Maria Beltran, Francisco Ramos and many of the La Paz staff had merely moved office buildings and changed their name to La Placita.
- 37. La Placita accepted payments from consumers pursuant to the terms of the La Paz agreements and issued receipts to those consumers with the La Placita name and address on them.
- 38. In some instances, La Placita received payments pursuant to La Paz client consulting agreements and provided loan modification assistance under the previously existing agreements with La Paz.
- 39. Consumers worked with nearly the same principals and employees regarding provision of the technical and customer support services under agreements with La Paz even when doing business with La Placita.

- 40. Those consumers submitted payments payable to La Paz to La Placita.
- 41. The only items that materially changed were the location of business, the name on the receipts given to consumers for payments, contact information, the name on the door, and the fact that, while promising verbally, in Spanish, to provide mortgage loan modification services to the consumer as in the past, Defendants merely directed consumers to various portions of the MAHA program or participated in using the program to create a loan modification application to send to the consumers' banks.
- 42. While La Paz Defendants and La Placita Defendants represented that all contractual ties between consumers and La Paz Defendants were severed by the Transition of Service Letter and consumers became bound by the MAHA Contract, Defendants continued to receive payments from consumers and openly stated the following with respect to the consumers' loan modification application: "La Paz Source never stop [sic] helping them, we gave them support[.]" See Letter to Fernando S. dated February 3, 2012, p. 1, ¶ 3 Attached Hereto as Exhibit C.

#### **ALLEGATIONS**

- A. <u>Allegations Regarding La Paz Source, LLC, Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos (June 10, 2008 through November 3, 2011):</u>
- 43. The State hereby re-alleges paragraphs one through forty-two as if set forth in full herein.
- 44. Between June 10, 2008 through November 3, 2011, La Paz Defendants under the name La Paz represented that they acted on behalf of, and for the benefit of, consumers to perform foreclosure consultant and mortgage loan modification services, including without limitation:
  - a. Contacting a creditor on behalf of a borrower;
  - b. Arranging or attempting to arrange an extension of the period within which a homeowner may cure the homeowner's default and reinstate the homeowner's obligation pursuant to a note, mortgage or deed of trust;

- c. Arranging or attempting to arrange delay or postponement of the time of a foreclosure sale;
- d. Giving advice, explanation or instruction to a homeowner that relates to the cure of a default in or the reinstatement of an obligation secured by a mortgage or other lien on the residence in foreclosure, to the full satisfaction of the obligation or to the postponement or avoidance of a foreclosure sale.
- 45. From June 10, 2008 through July 2010 Defendants charged individual consumers total fees ranging from \$1,500.00 to \$4,000.00 for their mortgage loan modification services.
- 46. From the enactment of Arizona's Foreclosure Consultant Statute in July 2010 through November 3, 2011, La Paz Defendants charged individual consumers total fees ranging from \$1,500.00 to \$4,000.00 for their foreclosure consultant services.
- 47. From the effective date of the Federal Trade Commission's (hereinafter "FTC") Mortgage Assistance Relief Services Rule, at 16 C.F.R § 322.1 et seq., (hereinafter the "M.A.R.S Rule") banning upfront fees in January 2011 through November 3, 2011, La Paz Defendants charged individual consumers total fees ranging from \$1,500.00 to \$4,000.00 for their foreclosure consultant services.
  - 48. La Paz Defendants required that all or a portion of these fees be paid upfront.
  - 49. For example, but without limitation:
    - a. In a contract signed on or about October 10, 2010, La Paz Defendants charged Francisco G. \$3,400 for their services with \$450 due upon signing the contract and the rest paid in installments over a ten month period. Not only did Defendants charge these fees upfront, but Francisco G. never received a loan modification and instead Francisco G. lost his home to foreclosure.
    - b. In a contract dated December 20, 2010, La Paz Defendants charged and collected from Hugo V. a sum of \$2,400 for their services before any

work had been completed on the account. Hugo V. was not on title to the property and was not even an obligee under the mortgage loan and therefore no work could possibly have been done on Hugo V.'s behalf with respect to the mortgage on the property. This fact did not stop Defendants from unsuccessfully soliciting an additional \$1,500 from Hugo V. in order to continue providing him with foreclosure consultant services.

- 50. Most, if not all, "Consulting Services Agreements," (hereinafter "Consulting Agreement") between La Paz Defendants and consumers contained standard language calling for upfront fees due on signing.
  - 2. Consulting Fee. A) In consideration of Consultant's performance of Consulting Services, Client agrees to pay Consultant a consulting fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (the 'consulting fee'), payable as follows: \$\_\_\_\_\_ due upon execution of this agreement, and \$\_\_\_\_\_ due upon \_\_\_\_\_ [date].

See Consulting Agreement section 2. "Consulting Fee", clause (a), attached hereto as Exhibit D.

- 51. La Paz Defendants' Consulting Agreement included a form titled "Declaración De Información."
- 52. The Declaración De Información outlines the consumer's payment schedule that Defendants used from, at least, January 2010 through November 2011.
- 53. After the enactment of Arizona's Foreclosure Consultant Statute in July 2010 and the effective date of the FTC M.A.R.S rule in January 2011, Defendants claimed, demanded or received fees on a given date regardless of what work had or had not been accomplished on the consumers' behalf by that listed due date. See Declaración De Información attached hereto as Exhibit E.
- 54. After the State and federal upfront fee bans went into effect, Defendants Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos openly admitted that they have charged upfront fees from homeowners in foreclosure before Defendants have furnished all covered services,

mortgage assistance relief services and before the consumer has received and accepted a loan modification from their lender by stating:

"We are not paid for the final results of a negotiation process; we are not paid to meet a client's expectations. We are paid for our time and effort."

See Letter to Fernando S. dated February 3, 2012, p. 1,  $\P$  3 Attached Hereto as Exhibit C; See also Letter to Claudia C. dated May 31, 2011, p. 2,  $\P\P$  2-3; and Miguel I. dated September 12, 2011, p. 2,  $\P\P$  1-2, Attached Hereto as Exhibit F.

- 55. In correspondence dated June 20, 2011, Southern Arizona Legal Aid (SALA) sent a demand letter, on behalf of their client Jorge M., to Defendants La Paz, Maria Beltran, and Francisco Ramos putting Defendants on notice that charging upfront fees for foreclosure consulting, and mortgage assistance relief services was prohibited by law and that Jorge M. was entitled to a refund. See Demand Letter from SALA dated June 20, 2011, p. 1 ¶ 2, attached hereto as Exhibit G.
- 56. In correspondence dated November 14, 2011 and December 12, 2011 the State sent letters to La Paz Defendants, return receipt requested, regarding a consumer complaint by Hugo V. that put Defendants on notice of the upfront fee ban in the Arizona Foreclosure Consultant statute and the Federal Trade Commission's M.A.R.S rule. The State sent the second letter after multiple unsuccessful attempts to deliver the first letter to Defendants' statutory agent and office locations. See Letter Regarding M.A.R.S rule dated December 12, 2011 attached hereto as Exhibit H.
- 57. The La Paz Defendants accepted delivery of the December 12, 2011 letter by signing the certified mail receipt on December 13, 2011.
- 58. After receipt of these letters, La Paz Defendants continued collecting upfront fees for foreclosure consulting, and mortgage assistance relief services offered to Arizona consumers. For example, but without limitation:
  - a. In a contract dated February 11, 2011, La Paz Defendants arranged to charge Maria C. \$2,400 for their services by charging \$1,200 on the date the parties signed the contract and another \$1,200 to be paid on March 11, 2011. Before Defendants completed all of the covered services for

which Defendants contracted with Maria C. and before Maria C. received or accepted a loan modification from her lender, Defendants charged her an additional \$1,648.49 to enroll in the MAHA program offered by Defendants. Maria C. paid Defendants a total of \$4,048.49, but never received and accepted a loan modification from her servicer as a result of Defendant's efforts.

- 59. La Paz Defendants led consumers to believe that Defendants were experts in the field of home loan mortgages and mortgage loan modifications who possessed specialized knowledge in that field on which consumers should rely.
- 60. After the enactment of the pertinent statutes, La Paz Defendants did not notify consumers that the collection of upfront fees for foreclosure consultant and mortgage assistance relief services was prohibited by state and federal law before collecting upfront fees from consumers.
- 61. Contrary to La Paz Defendants' direct and/or indirect representation to consumers that Defendants were compliant with state law, it was Defendants' business practice to charge upfront fees in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1378 et seq.
- 62. Contrary to La Paz Defendants' direct and/or indirect representation to consumers that Defendants were compliant with federal law, it was Defendants' business practice to charge upfront fees in violation of the Federal Trade Commission's Mortgage Assistance Relief Services Rule 16 C.F.R § 322.1 et seq.
- 63. La Paz Defendants often conveyed that they were fully licensed and bonded to perform loan originator and mortgage loan modification services, including foreclosure consultant services in the State of Arizona.
- 64. Many of La Paz Defendants' advertisements targeted Spanish-speaking populations in the State of Arizona via radio, leaflets, and visual media including, without limitation, television and internet advertising.
- 65. Many of La Paz Defendants' clients did not read or speak English proficiently, if at all.

- 66. La Paz Defendants provided Consulting Agreements written almost entirely in English.<sup>1</sup>
- 67. La Paz Defendants verbally and routinely guaranteed consumers specific results from the negotiation process in Spanish while Defendants' Consulting Agreement, written in English, disclaimed any guarantee or promise of a specific result.
- 68. When consumers spoke with La Paz Defendants, Defendants reassured them verbally and in writing that Defendants would act on the consumers' behalf and in their best interest to successfully obtain a loan modification.
- 69. Contrary to La Paz Defendants' assertions that they were acting on behalf of, and in the best interest of, consumers, Defendants willfully advised consumers to take courses of conduct that put consumers at a greater risk of adverse consequences, including foreclosure and a lowered credit rating. For example, but without limitation:
  - a. Defendants routinely advised consumers verbally, in Spanish, that they should stop paying their monthly mortgage payments in order to become delinquent.
  - b. Defendants verbally, in Spanish, advised their clients not to have any contact or communication with their loan servicer.
- 70. When consumers ceased paying their monthly mortgage payment, they were put at a greater risk of foreclosure and at a greater risk of a degraded credit rating.
- 71. When consumers ceased communications with loan servicers who sought to work out a loss mitigation solution to address the consumers' inability to pay their monthly mortgage payment, consumers were put at a greater risk of foreclosure.
- 72. La Paz Defendants promised or guaranteed consumers that Defendants could obtain certain outcomes. For example, but without limitation:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The only document in the Consulting Agreement that was typically offered in Spanish was the "Declaración De Información." But, the rest of the Consulting Agreement, which binds the parties, was in the English language.

- a. Defendants verbally promised some consumers, in Spanish, that they would save the consumers' property from foreclosure.
- b. Defendants verbally promised many consumers, in Spanish, that they would obtain a loan modification with a lower monthly payment.
- 73. La Paz Defendants did not achieve the results they promised each consumer.
- 74. Through their advertising and verbal communications to consumers that La Paz Defendants were experts in the field of mortgage loan modification services who possessed specialized knowledge in that field, La Paz Defendants directly and/or indirectly conveyed to consumers that they had the proper authority to conduct foreclosure consultant and mortgage assistance relief services through compliance with State and Federal law.
- 75. In fact, however, La Paz Defendants did not, and do not, have proper authority or licensure as Ioan originators pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-991 *et seq.* to enter into such transactions. See CID Response Excerpt to Demand #4 attached hereto as Exhibit I<sup>2</sup>.
- 76. As of the date of filing this Complaint, neither Defendant Maria Beltran nor any other employee of Defendants has been, or currently is, listed as a licensee licensed as a loan originator with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System (NMLS) as required by Arizona law to perform mortgage loan modification services, that included loan originator services.
- 77. After consumers paid La Paz Defendants a down payment and issued Defendants a number of post-dated checks or made installment payments, Defendants became virtually unreachable for information regarding the status of consumers' loan negotiations.
- 78. In fact, Defendants failed to answer the telephone or return phone calls from consumers.

On May 10, 2011, the State issued a Civil Investigative Demand (CID) asking Defendants, in demand #4, to "[i]dentify and provide a copy of any business license ... or any other licenses issued to La Paz by the State [of] Arizona or any government entity within the State." On July 1, 2011, Defendant Maria Beltran answered demand #4 of the CID on behalf of La Paz, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit I.

- 79. Due to La Paz Defendants' lack of communication regarding consumers' home loans, some consumers contacted their mortgage servicers and learned that Defendants had either not made contact with the servicers or had only engaged in a negligible amount of communication with the servicers.
- 80. For example, but without limitation, La Paz Defendants claimed that they had worked on a consumer's case by completing and sending in an application for loan modification to the consumer's lender/servicer yet the consumer had not submitted a single document to Defendants regarding the consumer's hardship or any of his financial records, which is routinely required to accompany an application for a loan modification.
- 81. La Paz Defendants charged consumers, what purported to be, a sales tax but never remitted the funds paid by consumers to the Arizona Department of Revenue or any other duly authorized taxing authority.
- 82. As member/managers of Defendant La Paz, Defendants Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos, with actual and/or constructive knowledge, working alone or in concert with others, approved, endorsed, directed, ratified, controlled or otherwise participated in the illegal acts and practices alleged herein.
- B. Allegations Regarding La Placita Defendants and Defendant Francisco Ramos (November 3, 2011 to the Present):
- 83. The State hereby re-alleges paragraphs one through eighty-one as if set forth in full herein.
- 84. The very day that La Paz Defendants dissolved La Paz as a business entity performing mortgage loan modification services, including foreclosure consultant services and mortgage assistance relief services, Defendant Maria Beltran and Arturo Gomez Leon formed La Placita Multi Services, LLC.
- 85. Defendant La Placita has employed Defendant Francisco Ramos since it was formed in November 2011.
  - 86. La Placita Defendants represented that they offered tax preparation services.

- 87. La Placita Defendants also represented that they were an authorized retail outlet for a program called MAHA and promised many consumers that the use of MAHA would result in a successful, affordable, loan modification.
- 88. La Placita Defendants' contracts claimed that MAHA is a Do-It-Yourself program sold to consumers so that consumers can prepare their own loan modification applications with their lender/servicers and engage in their own loan modification negotiations.
- 89. La Placita Defendants conveyed to consumers *verbally*, in Spanish, that Defendants would continue to offer consumers mortgage loan modification services, including foreclosure consulting services and mortgage assistance relief services, in the form of technical support and customer service support for those MAHA consumers who had questions regarding the program or the loan modification application process.
- 90. Many of La Placita Defendants' consumers did not read or speak English proficiently, if at all.
- 91. La Placita Defendants issued a one page contract regarding MAHA, which purported to contain the agreement between Defendants and the consumer regarding the sale of the MAHA program and the rights and obligations of the parties. See MAHA Contract attached hereto as Exhibit J.
- 92. The MAHA Contract represented that consumers purchased two separate items under the MAHA Contract, for the purchase price: (i) a service in the form of the access to the MAHA program a website run by MAHA; and (ii) a service in the form of technical and customer service support in which the consumers could consult with La Placita agents to obtain aid in using the program and navigating the loan modification application process.
- 93. The MAHA Contract required an immediate payment of all or part of the purchase price of the MAHA program at the time the consumer signed the contract but before the La Paz Defendants furnished any services to the consumer.

- 94. The MAHA Contract contained a "Disclaimer Disclosure" section with clauses stating, among other provisions, that:
  - a. "Client fully understands that after the purchase of this product, he or she is not entitled to any type of refund regardless of the outcome of the Loan Modification."
  - b. "Clients understand that the 'MAHA Do It Yourself' DIY program is a system that allows the client/purchaser to structure his or her own loan modification by themselves [sic], MAHA representatives or associates do not participate in the preparation of the client's loan modification process."
  - c. "Client understands that MAHA is not 100% guaranteeing a successful loan modification and releases MAHA from any liability in case that a Loan Modification is not achieved."
  - d. "Client certifies that he or she received an explanation in Spanish by a MAHA representative and understood the information given throughout this contract."
  - e. "Clients will have access to their MAHA program indefinitely, however technical support will only be available for 3 months. After these 3 months have elapsed, a charge of \$99.00 a month will apply to have access to this service."
  - f. "Technical Support includes the ability to ask questions and receive prompt answers via e-mail to our staff of experienced agents."
  - g. "Our agents aid the customer in the understanding of the MAHA program."
- 95. In reality, after the consumer paid between \$500 and \$2,000, the La Placita Defendants did not provide the consumer with the services La Placita Defendants represented they would provide.
  - 96. Instead, consumers had to meet with La Placita Defendants and their agents.
- 97. During the meetings, Defendants and in some cases not the consumers used the MAHA program to generate portions of the loan modification application.

98. Some of La Placita Defendants' consumers could only use the MAHA website at La Placita's office, while other consumers were given a logon password to use from their computers at home.

- 99. Once consumers paid for the MAHA program they discovered that it consisted of nothing more than forms and information, on MAHA's own website, that were readily available, free of charge, on government websites.
- 100. Under the guise of "technical support," the La Placita Defendants and Defendant Francisco Ramos provided mortgage assistance relief services to consumers by asking the consumers questions, collecting consumers' financial information, and filling in the electronic forms on behalf of the consumer, which Defendants would then send on consumers' banks for the purpose of attempting to assist consumers with the prevention of foreclosure and securing a loan modification.
- 101. Once La Placita Defendants completed the forms, obtained copies of the consumer's financial paperwork and compiled the application packet, Defendants sometimes sent the packet to the consumer's lender/servicer on behalf of the consumer and instructed the consumer to make future inquiries with Defendants, and not their lender/servicer, regarding the status of the loan modification.
- 102. Once La Placita Defendants received full payment, Defendants ceased or severely limited their contact with the consumer.
- 103. The consumers remained in the dark regarding the status of their loan modifications and nothing further was done on consumers' behalf.
- 104. La Placita Defendants, Defendant Francisco Ramos and their agents asserted verbally in Spanish the opposite of what many of the terms of the MAHA Contract, written in English, stated.
- 105. In contradiction to the verbal promises of La Placita Defendants, the MAHA program, as proffered by La Placita Defendants, did not include negotiations with consumers' banks beyond the creation of the loan modification application La Placita Defendants sometimes sent to consumers' banks.

106. In contradiction to the terms of the MAHA Contract, written in English, La Placita Defendants and their agents affirmatively guaranteed consumers verbally, in Spanish, that the consumers would obtain a specific, positive result from using the MAHA program, including without limitation: (i) prevention or postponement of a foreclosure sale; and (ii) that the services would save the consumer's residence from foreclosure.

- 107. In contradiction to the terms of the MAHA Contract written in English, La Placita Defendants and their agents did not accurately and fully explain the terms of the MAHA Contract in Spanish to consumers before consumers purchased the product.
- 108. Despite La Placita Defendants' assertions that they were acting on behalf of and for the benefit of consumers, La Placita Defendants and their agents instructed consumers verbally, in Spanish, to cease paying their monthly mortgage loan payments, stating that this was necessary to obtain a loan modification.
- 109. La Placita Defendants have refused to give refunds to those consumers demanding refunds due to Defendants' failure to deliver promised goods and services, dissatisfaction with the MAHA program and/or those who claim that Defendants misrepresented the nature and efficacy of the MAHA program.
- 110. Defendants, directly or indirectly, solicited, represented to or offered consumers, for compensation, the performance of services, which are "merchandise" under Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act.
- 111. Defendants used spaces on the MAHA Contract to notate future installment payments consumers were to pay, where applicable, which showed that Defendants claimed, demanded or received fees on a given date regardless of what work they had or had not accomplished on the consumers' behalf by the listed due date.
- 112. La Placita Defendants led consumers to believe that Defendants were experts in the field of home loan mortgages and mortgage loan modifications who possessed specialized knowledge in that field on which consumers should rely.
- 113. By broadly advertising their services, holding themselves out to consumers as experts in the field of mortgage loan modifications and entering into agreements to

provide the MAHA program and support services, La Placita Defendants directly and/or indirectly conveyed to consumers that they had the proper legal authority to enter into these transactions through compliance with Federal law.

- 114. La Placita Defendants failed to disclose to consumers that their collection of upfront fees for mortgage assistance relief services was prohibited by federal law before collecting upfront fees from consumers.
- 115. La Placita Defendants failed to disclose the fact of the upfront fee ban with the intent that consumers rely on the omission of that material fact.
- 116. Contrary to La Placita Defendants' direct and/or indirect representations to consumers that Defendants were experts in the field of mortgage loan modification services possessing specialized knowledge of the field and therefore compliant with federal law, it was Defendants' business practice to charge upfront fees in violation of the Federal Trade Commission's M.A.R.S Rule.
- 117. In correspondence dated March 30, 2012, the State sent a letter to La Placita Defendants, return receipt requested, regarding a consumer complaint by Frank V. that put Defendant La Placita on notice, and Defendant Maria Beltran on second notice, of the upfront fee ban in the Federal Trade Commission's M.A.R.S rule. See Letter Regarding M.A.R.S rule dated March 30, 2012 attached hereto as Exhibit K.
- 118. La Placita Defendants accepted delivery of the March 30, 2012 letter by signing the certified mail receipt on April 4, 2012. *Id*.
- 119. La Placita Defendants charged consumers, what purported to be, a sales tax but never remitted the funds paid by consumers to the Arizona Department of Revenue or any other duly authorized taxing authority.
- 120. As a member/manager of Defendant La Placita, Defendant Maria Beltran, with actual and/or constructive knowledge, approved, endorsed, directed, ratified, controlled or otherwise participated in the illegal acts and practices alleged herein.
- 121. The events alleged herein regarding Defendants La Paz Source, Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos occurred from November 2008 through November 2011.

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The events alleged herein regarding La Placita Defendants and Defendant Francisco Ramos occurred, and have continued to occur, since November 2011.

#### **COUNT I**

#### VIOLATION OF A.R.S § 44-1521 et seq.: ARIZONA'S CONSUMER FRAUD ACT

- The State hereby re-alleges paragraphs one through one hundred twenty-one 123. as if set forth in full herein.
- Defendants engaged in the use of deception, deceptive acts or practices, 124. fraud, false pretense, false promise, misrepresentation, or concealment, suppression or omission of any material fact with intent that others rely upon such concealment, suppression or omission, in connection with Defendants' advertisement, sale or delivery of services in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1522(A).<sup>3</sup> These acts included, but are not limited to the acts described below.
  - a. Defendants targeted the Spanish-speaking community in Arizona and obtained a benefit through the deceptive exploitation of the consumers' Spanish/English language barrier.
  - Defendants deceptively held themselves out as acting on behalf of, and for the benefit of, consumers while at the same time Defendants advised consumers to take actions adverse to the consumers' own interests.
  - c. Defendants falsely promised or guaranteed consumers a satisfactory outcome or a specific result to the foreclosure prevention and/or loan modification efforts and failed to deliver on those guarantees or promises.
  - d. Defendants misrepresented, directly or indirectly, that they were authorized to transact loan originator, foreclosure consultant and/or mortgage assistance relief services when they were not so authorized.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A violation of the Consumer Fraud Act means, "[t]he act, use or employment by any person of any deception, deceptive act or practice, fraud, false pretense, false promise, misrepresentation, or concealment, suppression or omission of any material fact with intent that others rely upon such concealment, suppression or omission, in connection with the sale or advertisement of any merchandise whether or not any person has in fact been misled, deceived or damaged thereby, is declared to be an unlawful practice." A.R.S. §44-1522(A).

- e. Defendants deceptively represented, directly or indirectly, that they were compliant with state and federal laws when they were not compliant with state and federal laws.
- f. With the intent that others rely on their omission, Defendants failed to disclose the material fact that State and federal law prohibited the collection of upfront fees for foreclosure consultant and mortgage assistance relief services respectively, before collecting such upfront fees.
- g. Defendants misrepresented, directly or indirectly, to consumers that Defendants were lawfully entitled to collect upfront fees for foreclosure consulting services and mortgage assistance relief services despite the State and federal prohibition on charging upfront fees for such services.
- h. Defendants deceptively represented that they were actively working on consumers' accounts when they were not actively working on those accounts or had only performed a negligible amount of work.
- i. Defendants misrepresented the nature of fees charged to consumers as a sales tax by retaining those fees, which consumers believed were charged to pay sales tax obligations, and failing to remit all or a portion of the fees to the proper taxing authority.
- 125. With regard to the foregoing violations, Defendants knew or should have known that the above acts and practices violated the Consumer Fraud Act, and those violations were, therefore, willful within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1531(A)<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "[A] willful violation occurs when the party committing the violation knew or should have known that his conduct was of the nature prohibited by §44-1522." A.R.S. §44-1531(B).

#### COUNT II

## <u>VIOLATION OF A.R.S § 44-1378 et seq.: ARIZONA'S FORECLOSURE</u>

#### **CONSULTANT STATUTE**

- 126. The State hereby re-alleges paragraphs one through one hundred twenty-four as if set forth in full herein.
- 127. La Paz Defendants routinely violated the Arizona Foreclosure Consultant Statute at A.R.S. § 44-1378.02 by engaging in the following conduct:
  - a. La Paz Defendants claimed, demanded, charged, collected or received compensation from consumers, some of whose homes were in foreclosure proceedings, before the Defendants had fully performed each covered service that the Defendants contracted to perform or represented that the Defendants would perform. Indeed, La Paz Defendants often charged an upfront deposit/fee before starting any work on the case regardless of whether any provision in the contract called for such a deposit.
  - b. La Paz Defendants' practice of charging upfront fees, both, predated and postdated the enactment of the Arizona Foreclosure Consultant Statute in July of 2010.
  - 128. A.R.S. § 44-1378.07(B) states the following:

An act or practice in violation of this article constitutes an unlawful practice under § 44-1522. The attorney general may investigate and take appropriate action as prescribed by chapter 10, article 7 of this title.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

The State of Arizona respectfully requests that this honorable Court enter an Order:

A. Issuing a permanent injunction prohibiting all Defendants, their agents, employees, and all other persons or entities, corporate or otherwise, in active concert or participation with any of them, from violating A.R.S. § 44-1521 et seq., A.R.S. § 44-1378 et seq. or engaging in the unlawful acts and practices alleged in the Complaint.

- B. Issuing a permanent injunction prohibiting all Defendants from operating entities or businesses that provide mortgage loan modification service, foreclosure consultant services as defined by A.R.S. § 44-1378 et seq., and mortgage assistance relief services as defined by 16 C.F.R § 322.1 et seq., in, into, or from the State of Arizona.
- C. Ordering all Defendants to pay the State of Arizona a civil penalty of up to \$10,000.00 for each violation of the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1531 and for each violation of the Arizona Foreclosure Consultant Statute, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1378 et seq.
- D. Ordering all Defendants to restore to all Arizona consumers any money and property acquired by any unlawful means or practice alleged in the Complaint, as deemed appropriate by the Court pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1528.
- E. Ordering all Defendants to pay the State of Arizona its costs of investigation and prosecution of this matter, including reasonable attorneys' fees, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1534.
  - F. Granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

DATED this  $1^{st}$  day of August, 2012.

THOMAS C. HORNE ATTORNEY GÉNERAL

Jeremý Shorbe

Assistant Attorney General Attorney for Plaintiff

An original of the foregoing was filed this  $1^{st}$  day of August, 2012, with:

Honorable Charles Harrington

110 West Congress

Tucson, Arizona 85701

Copy delivered via email and first class mail this  $1^{st}$  day of August, 2012 to:

l	•			
1 2	La Placita Multi Services, LLC Attn: Statutory Agent Arturo Gomez Leon			
3	2535 S. Aztec Point Trail Tucson, Arizona 85748			
4	La Placita Multi Services, LLC			
5	Attn: Maria Beltran, Francisco Ramos, and Arturo Gomez Leon 4072 E. 22 <sup>nd</sup> Street			
6	Tucson, Arizona 85711			
7	Defendants in Propria Persona			
8	LaPlacitaMultiServicesllc@Yahoo.Com Phx-#2709424			
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STATE OF ARIZONA )
County of Maricopa )

The undersigned hereby certifies that she is a Legal Assistant with the Arizona Attorney General's Office. In that capacity, she is authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of the State; that she has read the foregoing Complaint and knows the contents thereof, and the same are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief, as set forth therein.

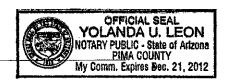
DATED this  $1^{st}$  day of August, 2012.

Barbara Vega, Legal Assistant Office of the Attorney General

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this  $1^{st}$  day of August, 2012.

Notary Public

Commission Expires:



## **EXHIBIT A**

# EXHIBIT A

### Arizona Corporation Commission State of Arizona Public Access System

04/16/2012

2:59 PM

#### Please Note

Information listed in the History Corporate Inquiry may not reflect the most up to date information on record with the Commission. Please contact the Customer Service Call Center at 602-542-3026 for additional information.

#### Jump To ...

Scanned Documents Microfilm

History Corpo	rate Inquiry
File Number: L-1456202-0	
Corp. Name: LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC	

#### **Domestic Address**

4750 N BLACK CANYON HWY	
STE 302	
PHOENIX, AZ 85017	

#### **Statutory Agent Information**

Agent Name: BELEN GOMEZ	
 Agent Address:	
2012 E BORADWAY BLVD	
STE 101	
TUCSON, AZ 85719	
Agent Status: APPOINTED 07/25/2011	
Agent Last Updated: 08/16/2011	

### **Additional Corporate Information**

Business Type:	Corporation Type: DOMESTIC L.L.C.
Incorporation Date: 06/10/2008	Corporate Life Period: PERPETUAL
Domicile: ARIZONA	County: MARICOPA
Approval Date: 06/18/2008	Original Publish Date: 08/21/2008
Dissolution/Withdrawal: ARTICLES OF TERMINATION	Dissolution/Withdrawal Date: 11/03/2011

#### **Member Information**

FRANCISCO RAMOS MANAGER

2012 E BROADWAY BLVD

STE 101

TUCSON, AZ 85719

Date of Taking Office: 06/10/2008

Last Updated: 08/16/2011

MARIA J BELTRAN

MEMBER

10528 W CHICKSON

TOLLESON, AZ 85353

Date of Taking Office: 06/10/2008

Last Updated: 08/16/2011

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#### **Scanned Documents**

(Click on gray button to view document)

Document Number	Description	Date Received
02460179	ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION	06/13/2008
02531704	PUB OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION	08/21/2008
02900664	CHANGE(S)	09/21/2009
03516937	AGENT RESIGNATION	05/13/2011
03510922	AGENT RESIGNATION	05/16/2011
03525851	CHANGE(S)	07/25/2011

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#### Microfilm

Location	Entered	Description
3-2135-000-147	06/13/2008	ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION
3-2154-002-303	08/21/2008	PUB OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION
1-1925-007-014	11/03/2011	ARTICLES OF TERMINATION

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#### 04/16/2012

### Arizona Corporation Commission State of Arizona Public Access System

3:00 PM

### Jump To...

#### Scanned Documents

Corporate Inquiry	
File Number: L-1718360-8	Check Corporate Status
Corp. Name: LA PLACITA MULTI SERVICES, LLC	
Domestic Address	
4072 E 22ND ST	,
TUCSON, AZ 85711	

### **Statutory Agent Information**

Agent Name: ARTURO GOMEZ LEON	
Agent Mailing/Physical Address:	
2535 S AZTEC POINT TRAIL	
TUCSON, AZ 85748	
Agent Status: APPOINTED 11/03/2011	
Agent Last Updated: 03/14/2012	
	Agent Mailing/Physical Address:  2535 S AZTEC POINT TRAIL  TUCSON, AZ 85748  Agent Status: APPOINTED 11/03/2011

### **Additional Corporate Information**

Corporation Type: DOMESTIC L.L.C.	Business Type:
Incorporation Date: 11/03/2011	Corporate Life Period: PERPETUAL
Domicile: ARIZONA	County: PIMA
<b>Approval Date:</b> 11/29/2011	Original Publish Date: 01/30/2012

#### Manager/Member Information

MARIA BELTRAN	ARTURO GOMEZ LEON
MANAGER	MANAGER
2535 S AZTEC POINT TRAIL	2535 S AZTEC POINT TRAIL
	TUCSON, AZ 85748
Date of Taking Office: 11/03/2011	Date of Taking Office: 11/03/2011
	Last Updated: 11/29/2011

#### **Scanned Documents**

(Click on gray button to view document - will open in a new window)

Document Number	Description	Date Received
03663399	ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION	11/03/2011
03815424	PUB OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION	01/30/2012

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- Return to Arizona Corporation Commission Home Page

## **EXHIBIT B**

## **EXHIBIT B**

## La Paz Source, LLC.

Agosto 1, 2011	•	-	
Foodalure 4			·
-10.000 N 85	3413		
RE: <u>LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC CA</u>	MBIO DE SER	VICIO A M.A.H.A.	
La Paz Source le quiere agradecer el i esta listo para empezar este nuevo cap cambios, y contestado todas sus preguoficina a este numero (520) 409-2724 2500.	ntulo con nuestra	a compania. Le nemos expircado re	r a nuestra
Al firmar las porciones indicadas, afra usted en el proceso de modificacior M.A.H.A Al firmar, usted esta de acvalido y no sera aplicable en el proce el contrato valido en su caso. Al firmo monetarias. Una vez firmado el cor dirijidas al corporativo de M.A.H.A.	LEn cambio, nuo cuerdo que el cor so de su modific	estra compania proporcionara er pr ntrato con LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC acion. El nuevo contrato atravez de no tendra derecho a hacer demanda	C ya no sera e M.A.H.A. sera as legales, civiles,
Nombre Eserito	E. 12111	(Co-Borrower) Nombre Escrito	Fecha (
Firma	Fecha	(Co-Borrower)Firma	Fecha

## **EXHIBIT C**

## **EXHIBIT C**

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ATTENTION: BARBARA V 400 W CONGRESS STREET SUITE 315 TUCSON, AZ 85701

RE: CIC 12-01464 FERNANDO S

RECEIVED

FEB 23 2012

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ARIZ. TUCSON OFFICE

#### Dear Madam:

In response to the above reference complaint dated February 13<sup>th</sup> 2012. On April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Mr. and Mrs. Section stepped into our office and after a presentation, they decided to signed a contract with La Paz Source, LLC.

Mr. S states on his complaint that in a year La Paz Source, LLC did not work on their loan, and to be honest, no one lives for free for more than a year if nothing is been done, I understand that it is a frustrated and long process but the outcomes and time frames are determined by each lender and they were aware that their lender is the only one who decides whether to grant a modification or not, NOT La Paz Source. Our job was to place time and effort into negotiating with their lender in hopes of obtaining a loan modification deal.

On August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 they were introduce to a DIY Loan Modification software by MAHA (Making All Homes Affordable) and they decided to purchase the software and by doing so, the agreement with La Paz Source was completely null (see attached change of service letter). La Paz Source, LLC never stop helping them, we gave them support until they decided to go on their own. Also, Mr. Services states that La Paz Source, LLC called their house to promote our services, and that is a LIE, we only advertised by radio and magazine ads.

With everything been said, I want to make it very clear to Mr. Simple that he is prolonging a matter in which he will not obtain any repayment of monies, compensation, or refund. And I wish to make him aware of the reason for which a reimbursement would be quite impossible. PLEASE REFFER TO THE CONTRACT SIGNED BY MR. AND MRS.

Simple (Arizona State Law allows 3 days to cancel any/all signed contracts, failure to do so negate any refund). See attached page 4 of contract.

We are NOT paid for the final results of a negotiation process; we are NOT paid to meet a client's expectations. We are paid for our time and effort.

Thank you,

Francisco Ramos

Date

# EXHIBIT D

# EXHIBIT D

520620



•		. ,			
Name:	vicente	& maria			
Address			TUCSON	AZ 83	577 Y
Lender:					
Loan #_		The state of the s			-
Dear C	Customer of La I	Paz Source:	<b>、</b>		
assu: thru	iz Source, LLC vere you that our of a loan modification any effort to obtain thank you fo	only goal is to g tion with your l	et the help ender. I, as odification	you need a your nego for you. Or	nd deserve tiator, will ace again we
Thank	You.				
Estima	ado Cliente De L	a Paz Source:			
La Par	z Source, LLC le	agradece por p	oner su cor	ıfianza en :	nosotros. Le
nece bance	ramos que nuest esita y merece a o. Yo, como su n odificación just	ro único objetiv treves de una m egociador, pond	o es conseg odificación ré todo mi e nuevo le a	guir la ayud del présta esfuerzo pa gradecemo	da que ustec mo con su ara obtener
Gracia	S.				
	Paz Source, LLC Nego dadora De La Paz Sour		***	Marie Marie Marie de la companya de	
Signatu Frima:	re		Date/	7 /C	

asian Ta Balàsas Information

Pg. I of 8

	•
Loss Mitigation & Foreolosure Prevention	
Borrower: Vinente & Maria	
Lender(s)	
Loan#	
Property Address:	
TUISON A2,85714	

If We, the undersigned, being the owner(s) of the above referenced real property hereby authorize any and all lien holders or investors related to such property and their designated representative(s), assign(s) and agent(s) to discuss specific account information regarding the above - referenced loan(s), promissory Note(s), Deed(s) of Trust and related documentation that may be protected through the Right to financial Privacy Act of 1978, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, or any other State, Federal or other applicable statue, with La Paz Source LLC (4750 N. Black Canyon Hwy Ste. 802, Phoenix, Arizona 85017) and their employees including, but not limited to:

Loan Modification Team:

Francisco Remos, Alondra Munoz, Maria Beltran, Eunice Olivas, Guadalupe Perez, Martha Vidal, Dylan Kirchoff, Jessica Zepeda, Armando Rodriguez, Brisa Golden, Karime Brambila, Rafael Gomez, Siomara Magoulas, Christina Galaviz, Balen Gomez, Vianey Felix, Sandra Urista, Jose Fernandez

Lest 4 digits of Tax ID: 3569

- -The mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 is a Nation Wide initiative help homeowners to:
  - ~Avoid Public Foreclosure
  - ~Relieve of the Entire Mortgage Debt if Any
  - ~Rescue Their Credit
- A Copy of this Authorization may be accepted as an original. This Authorization is valid until revoked by the undersigned or when modification of the above referenced loau(s) is (are) satisfactorily completed. La Paz Source LLC will not be held responsible in any manner for following the authorization and/or instructions given herein.

Vicente		02/11/11
Borrower Signature	55#	Date (
Maria		24/-//
Co-Borrower Signature	SS#	Date

Authorization is valid for 6 months/Expiration Date:

520620 12/12/2011 12:27

	Pg, 2 of δ
	ONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and entered into as of this
I. CONS	ULTING SERVICES
a)	Consultant agrees to provide, on behalf of Client, the services selected on Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "Consulting Services"). Consultant shall use its best efforts in providing the Consulting Services.
b)	Client may, from time to time, select additional Consulting Services and Client acknowledges and agrees that additional fees will be charged for such additional services beyond those initially selected herein.
c)	Client agrees to have Consultant represent Client as an advisor and negotiate and act on Client's behalf for the purpose of negotiating terms with Client's lender, the lender's "loss mitigation" or similar department.
d)	In performing the Consulting Services, Consultant may negotiate with Client's lender, or other third-parties as necessary to accomplish the Consulting Services. Client understands and agrees that Consultant will be the primary contact between the Client and Client's lender, bank, holder or other third-parties holding an interest in Client's mortgage, and any contact by Client with Client's lender, bank, holder, or any other third-parties without the prior written consent of Consultant, shall constitute an automatic breach of this Agreement.
e) ,	The period of time required by Consultant to perform the Consulting Services may vary, however, based upon our experience, we offer the following timelines:  [Service 1:
Ð	Consultant reserves the right to determine the method, manner, or means by which the Consulting Services are to be performed.
g)	Client acknowledges that Client's lender or mortgage company typically possesses the right and in some cases may elect to call Client's entire Note or mortgage immediately due and payable and Client expressly agrees to indemnify Consultant for, and shall hold Consultant harmless from, any and all liabilities asserted against or incurred or sustained by Client arising out of, related to or associated with such action by Client's lender or mortgage company.
h)	Client agrees and understands that because the outcome of the Consulting Services are almost entirely dependent upon Client's lender and similar third parties, Consultant cannot make, has not made, and will not in the future make, any warranties or representations as to the outcome of any efforts related to the Consulting Services. By signing below, Client agrees to pay for Consultant's advice, efforts and costs and not for any particular result.
i)	Client acknowledges and agrees that Consultant is not an attorney and that neither this Agreement, nor the performance of the Consulting Services shall constitute any type of legal advice offered to Client. Should Client need legal advice, Client is strongly advised to retain the services of a qualified attorney.

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- a) In consideration of Consultant's performance of the Consulting Services, Client agrees to pay Consultant a consulting fee of \$ 3,400 (the "Consulting Fee"), payable as follows: \$ 1300 due upon execution of this Agreement, and \$ 300 due upon:
- b) If, at any time during the term of this Agreement, Consultant obtains approval from Client's lender for: (i) a loan modification, or (ii) an extension of Client's trustee's sale auction date, the entire Consulting Fee shall be deemed fully earned and payable by Client.
- c) Client understands and acknowledges that the services provided by La Paz Source, LLC, are on a best offer and are basis and are not guaranteed; no particular result is promised, and no prediction of any final results has been made.

#### 3. MISCELLANBOUS

a) Notice. All notices required or permitted to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be given in writing in the English language, shall be transmitted by personal delivery, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or by facsimile or other electronic means and shall be addressed as follows:

Notices to Client should be sent to:



Notices to Consultant should be sent to its principal business address:

La Paz Source, LLC 4750 North Black Canyon Hwy. Suite 302 Phoenix, Arizona 85017

Consultant's agent authorized to receive service of process:

Ben Bhandhusavee The Bhandhusavee Firm, PLC 11811 North Tatum Blvd. Suite 1051 Phoenix, Arizona 85028

- b) Attorney's Fees. In any action at law or in equity to enforce any of the provisions or rights under this Agreement, the unsuccessful party to such litigation, as determined by the court in a final judgment or decree, shall pay the successful party or parties all costs, expenses and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred therein by such party or parties (including without limitation such costs, expenses and fees on any appeals), and if such successful party shall recover judgment in any such action or proceeding, such costs, expenses and attorneys' fees shall be included as part of such judgment.
- c) Severability. If any provision of this Agreement shall be held, declared or pronounced vold, invalid, unenforceable or inoperative for any reason, by any court of competent jurisdiction, government authority or otherwise, such holding, declaration or pronouncement shall not affect adversely any other provisions of this Agreement which shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

520620

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- d) Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of Client and Consultant and their respective heirs, executors, representatives, successors and assigns.
- e) Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire agreement of Client and Consultant relating to the matters set forth herein. It may not be changed orally, but only by an agreement in writing, signed by the party against whom enforcement of any waiver, change, modification, extension or discharge is sought.
- No Assignment. This Agreement may not be assigned by either party without the prior written consent of the other party.
- g) Governing Law. This instrument shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of Arizona.
- h) Information Statement. By signing this Agreement and initialing below, Client acknowledges that Client has received a copy of the Information Statement from Consultant prior to signing this Agreement or navment of any fees or other compensation to Consultant.

payment of any fees or other compensation to Consultant. YOU, THE CLIENT, MAY CANCEL THIS CONTRACT AT ANY TIME BEFORE MIDNIGHT OF THE THIRD Client(s) Initials: DAY AFTER THE DATE OF THE TRANSACTION. SEE THE ATTACHED NOTICE OF CANCELLATION PORM FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THIS RIGHT. Client Signature Clieny Name (print) Client Signature Client Name (print) sultant Representative Signature Consultant Representative Name .-- Detach here NOTICE OF CANCELLATION PER A.R.S. 844-170 YOU MAY CANCEL THIS CONTRACT WITHOUT ANY PENALTY OR OBLIGATION WITHIN THREE (3) DAYS FROM THE DATE THE CONTRACT IS SIGNED, IF YOU CANCEL, ANY PAYMENT MADE BY YOU UNDER THIS CONTRACT WILL BE RETURNED WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS AFTER RECEIPT BY THE CREDIT SERVICES ORGANIZATION OF YOUR CANCELLATION NOTICE. TO CANCEL THIS CONTRACT, MAIL OR DELIVER A SIGNED AND DATED COPY OF THIS CANCELLATION NOTICE, OR ANY OTHER WRITTEN NOTICE, TO: LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC, 4750 NORTH BLACK CANYON HWY, SUITE 302, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85017 NOT LATER THAN MIDNIGHT ON (DATE): /20 THEREBY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION CLIENTS SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_

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### \*\*\*\*\* ATTENTION \*\*\*\*\*

Failure to comply with any or all of the above or change of mind, La Paz Source, LLC, will no be held responsible of your case and will cancel any contract immediately and there will be no refunds. Client acknowledges that a substantial amount of work is performed by Consultant immediately upon execution of this Agreement and, therefore, no refund of Consulting Fees will be given.

Arizona State Law allows you 3 days to cancel any/all signed contract. Failure to do so negates any refund

Client may, from time to time request additional Consulting Services and Client acknowledges that additional fees will be charged for any Consulting Services requested in addition to those agreed upon herein.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS GIVEN BY YOUR LENDER IS CONSIDER AS A LOAN MODIFICATION AND LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC WILL CONSIDER OUR WORK DONE.

- 1. Interest Rate Reduction
- 2. Payment Plan, Repayment Plan, or Forbearance Plan
- 3. Sales Date Postponed
- 4. Principal Amount Reduction
- 5. Trial Period

After reaching the modification or any of the mention above, it is the clients responsibility to make payments on time as requested on trial period. La Paz Source, LLC will not be responsible if client fails to make the required payments on time for the trail period. By not making your payments on time or missing any payments, you, the client are aware that if you miss payments you are putting your property at risk

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#### Schedule A - Consulting Services

A "Yo	'ca" or "No" box must be initialed by Client homeown	er for each Service requested below:
Yes	No	
	Consulting Client homeowner throughout the	Foreclosure Process (Pre-Auction
. /	Date) Submittal of Loan Modification Package	•
مرسكما	Submittal of the Lender's Hardship Package	to the Loss Mitigation Manager
*	Arrange and Negotiate the Forbeatance Pack  Mortgage Violation Watchdog Audit and An	age to Lender
_	Written Demont	
	Refer Client to a Qualified Real Estate Broke	r to List your Home on MLS to
	Seek offers  Create a Marketing Package for your Propert	•
July 100	Segotiate a Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure	y to adiage a deniero Ostoro
3	Apply for Extensions of Client homeowner's	Auction Date
	Negotiate the Short Sale Process on Client he Provide Income Opportunities to help with your provided Income Opportunities Income Opportun	omeowner's Benati our Reinstatement Fees (Local
	Homeowners anly)	
1	Temporarily Postponing Client homeowner's	Foreclosure or Trustee's Sale Auction Date
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٧.		
	1/1	2-11-11
FU.	Ul Brioz	

Pg. 7 of 8

La Paz Source LLC. 4750 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Ste 302 Phoenix, AZ 85017 Ph. 602-687-9832 Fax. 602-914-7329

#### DECLARACIÓN DE INFORMACIÓN

<ol> <li>La Paz Source, LLC ("La Paz") proveera los siguientes servicios al prestatario ("Cliente");</li> </ol>	
a. Contactar el banco del Cliente para obtener una modificacion en su hipoteca.	

b. Someter toda documentación necesaria para iniciar el processo de modificación.

c. Someter peticion para detener la fecha de foreclosurc.

d. Mantener contacto con el banco hasta que se realize una modificación,

f. Mantener al Cliente informado del proceso de su modificacion.

El cobro de estos servicios es 2 veces (2x) su pago mensual hipotecario actual, Los cobros minimos son de \$2400.00 por prestamo si el pago es menor a esta cantidad Su pago mensual hipotecario actual es \$ 1.178.3. El cobro total por nuestros servicios es \$ 2.400. Esta cantidad se pagara conforme al programa siguiente e iniciaran al firmar el contrato.				
3-11-11	Primer mes 12 Segundo mes 12		Tercer mes Cuarto mes	or stockhydd hersolaus anna.
2. La Paz Source	, LLC esta fianzado po		ond Service, Inc 99 <sup>th</sup> Ave. #107 Z85345	

- 3. El Cliente tiene el derecho de proceder contra el bono de fianza bajo las circumstancias y conforme esta establecido en A.R.S. §44-1708.
- El Cliente tiene el derccho, a su peticion, de revisar su archivo bajo el mantenimiento de La Paz y el derecho de recibir una copia de ese archivo, como se indica por A.R.S. §44-1694.
- El Cliente tiene el derecho de cuestionar lo completado o exactitud de cualquier artículo en su archivo que es mantenido por cualquier agencia de credito como se indica por A.R.S. §44-1694.

Con mi firma abajo. Yo el Cliente, afirmo que esta declaración de información se me ha proporcionado, que se me ha dado la oportunidad y el tiempo sufficiente para revisarlo, y que he leido y comprendido los contendidos en esta declaración de información.

Pecha de hoy: 02-11-11	02-11-11
Nombre del Cliente: Vicen te  Pirma del Cliente: Vicen te	Maria

Pg. 8 of 8

#### REMEMBER

Modification process can take a minimum of three months and extend up to eight months or more
depending on the volume of work that the bank has and / or many other factors, which requires a lot
of patience on your part.

\* Calls from collections and the Foreclosure process do not stop until modification is approved. This process will be cancelled once the modification is approved by lender. If you have a Foreclosure date, time extensions will be obtained to allow arrangements with bank until the modification is reached. The fact that you receive calls and letters from your bank, does NOT mean that we are not working on you modification.

Once we received your file, it is assign to a negotiator. This person will be in contact with you
weekly to give you status of the process and if any documents are needed for the modification. If you
receive any letters from your bank, you will need to fax them to your negotiator right away.

If you need to speak to your negotiator this will be possible only by personal or phone appointment.
 Please let us know by calling 602-687-9832.

Keep this information handy and remember that we are working for your benefit. Thank you very much for your confidence and once again, welcome to La Paz Source, LLC.

#### RECUERDE

- El proceso de modificación puede durar un minimo de tres meses y extenderse hasta ocho meses o
  más dependiendo del volumen de trabajo que tenga su banco y/o de muchos otros factores, por lo cual
  se requiere de mucha paciencia de su parte.
- Las llamadas de colecciones y el proceso de Foreclosure no se detienen al estar haciendo una modificación. El proceso será cancelado hasta que la modificación sea aprobada por su banco. Si usted ya tiene fecha de Foreclosure, se obtienen extensiones de tiempo hasta que la modificación sea aprobada o a que se llegue a un arreglo con su banco. El hecho de que este recibiendo llamadas y cartas de su banco, NO quiere decir que no se esté trabajando en su modificación.
- Al recibir su archivo, este es asignado a un negociador (a). Esta persona estará en contacto con usted una vez pot semana para darle información del proceso de su modificación o si algún documento es necesario para el proceso. Si usted recibe alguna carta de su banco por favor de mandarla a su negociador (a) lo antes posible.
- Si necesita hablar personalmente con su negociador (a), esto será posible solamente a través de una cita por teléfono o personalmente. Por favor de hacernos saber al número 602-687-9832.

Por favor mantenga esta información a la mano y recuerde que nosotros estarnos trabajando en su beneficio. Gracias por su confianza y una vez más, blenvenido a La Paz Source, LLC.

Client/Cliente VICE OFC	Firma Vicente	Fecha <u>@1/11/11</u>
Client/Cliente/Varia	Firma Manera	Fecha 02 11-11

# **EXHIBIT E**

# **EXHIBIT E**

Pg. 7 of 8

La Paz Source LLC. 4750 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Ste 302 Phoenix, AZ 85017 Ph. 602-687-9832 Fax. 602-914-7329

#### DECLARACIÓN DE INFORMACIÓN

	www.			
1. La Paz Source, LLC ("La Paz") proveera los siguientes servicios al prestatario ("Cliente"):  a. Contactar el banco del Cliente para obtener una modificacion en su hipoteca.  b. Someter toda documentacion necesaria para iniciar el processo de modificacion.  c. Someter peticion para detener la fecha de foreclosure.  d. Mantener contacto con el banco hasta que se realize una modificacion.  f. Mantener al Cliente informado del proceso de su-modificacion.				
El cobro de estos servicios es 2 veces (2x) su pago mensual hipotecario actual.  Los cobros minimos son de \$2400.00 por prestamo si ci pago es menor a esta cantidad.  Su pago mensual hipotecario actual es \$ 1,178,33.  El cobro total por nuestros servicios es \$ 2000.  Esta cantidad se pagara conforme al programa siguiente e iniciaran al firmar el contrato.				
3-11-11	Primer mes Segando mes	Tercer mes Charto mes		
2. Le Paz Sourc	e, LLC esta fianzado por	Viking Bond Service, Inc 11351 N. 99th Ave. #187 Peoria, AZ 85345		
3. El Cliente tiene el derecho de proceder contra el bono de fianza bajo las circumstancias y conforme esta establecido en A.R.S. §44-1708.				
	. El Chente tiene el derecho, a su peticion, de revisar su archivo bajo el mantenimiento de La Paz y el derecho de recibir una copia de ese archivo, como se indica por A.R.S. §44-1694.			
5. El Cliente tier que es manten	El Cliente tiene el derecho de cuestionar lo completado o exactitud de cualquier artículo en su archivo que es mantenido por cualquier agencia de credito como se indica por A.R.S. §44-1694.			

Con mi firma abajo. Yo el Cliente, afirmo que esta declaracion de informacion se me ha

y comprendido los contendidos en esta declaración de información.

Fecha de hoy: 02-1/-

Firma del Cliente: Vicen

Nombre dei Cliente:

proporcionado, que se me ha dado la oportunidad y el tiempo suficiente para revisarlo, y que le leido

# **EXHIBIT F**

# **EXHIBIT F**

### LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC.

May 31, 2011

Karen Caracteria Conflice of Attorney General
Legal Assistant
Consumer Protection Advocacy

RE:

# CIC 11-10163 CLAUDIA Tucson, Arizona 85746

I, Maria Beltran, am the head of La Paz Source LLC. I have received and read Mrs. complaint dated May 2, 2011. I am writing today to respond to Mrs. complaint. On April 17, 2010 Mr. and Mrs. came into our Tucson office for a free consultation to learn about the services we provide. At the end of the consultation they signed a contract for the property located at Tucson, AZ 85746.

La Paz Source, LLC soon began to negotiate with the lender. We also were in contact with the investor and their assigned representative. We were honest with Mr. and Mrs. and made them aware of every situation. We worked very hard in submitting documents, keeping in contact with the lender, and our clients. I am completely FOR justice, and I strongly believe in the United State's Legal System. Yet, why is Mrs. against us? There was no unjust act done by La Paz Source, LLC towards her or her husband. We did not steal their money, we did not steal their house, nor did we shy away when he filed a complaint against us. No, we sincerely tried to help them. We are not responsible for any of their unfortunate events. If we were an unethical company we would ignore this matter. Yet we are neither liars, nor thieves, and we have no reason to hide from anything.

It is true, Mr. and Mrs. have been with La Paz Source for a year, but that is not necessarily wrong. All loan modifications are different, all lenders are different, and every case is different. We never make any guarantees because we know that there is no way to foretell the future.

Mr. and Mrs. have an FHA loan. In that type of loan, the borrower needs to be no more than 12 months behind on their mortgage payments in order to be under review for a loan modification. They are now over 15 months past due in their payments. On April 20, 2011we informed Mrs. that she had to make some payments, in order to be less than 12 months past due. Mrs. was very upset and said that she couldn't make any payments. And now in her complaint, she is blaming us of ill-advising her into not making her mortgage payments. We never did tell Mrs. Cazares to stop making mortgage payments.

In fact, on November 30, 2010 a La Paz Source Manager named Eunice Olivas spoke with Mr.

In their conversation Eunice told him that the property was not in foreclosure process but that

With everything being said, I want to make it very clear to Mr. and Mrs. that they will not obtain any repayment of monies, compensation, or refund. And I wish to make them aware of the reason for which a reimbursement would be quite impossible. PLEASE REFFER TO THE CONTRACT SIGNED BY MR. & MRS. Any reasonable person would spend time examining a CONTRACT which they are planning to sign. We are not paid for the final results of a negotiation process; we are not paid to meet a client's expectations. We are paid for our time, and effort. See page 2 Section 1(h). Also, we do not refund any money if the signed contract is not canceled within the 3 days after signing it. See page 5 Bullet 2.

I encourage them to save herself the time and trouble of persisting with this matter, for La Paz Source, LLC will not budge. If we were to be wrong then we would accept and come to terms with a client. But this is not a case in which we are in the wrong, on the contrary, we did not do anything wrong. In life there are just some people that cannot be pleased. Lucky for us, it is not our job to meet everyone's expectations or please everyone. It is our job to place time and effort into negotiating with the lender in hopes of obtaining a good Loan Modification deal for our clients.

We don't expect for this response to satisfy Mrs. "'s wants, but I would like to point out that this response has been honest and very matter of fact. If she continues on with this, she will continue to get the same answer from me, "They will not obtain any repayment of monies, compensation, or refund." There is nothing more to be said.

<u> 5/3///</u>

Thank you Ms. C

### LA PAZ SOURCE, LLC.

September 12, 2011

Janette Janes
Office of Attorney General
Legal Assistant
Consumer Protection Advocacy

RECEIVED .

SEP 13 2011

ARIZONA
ATTORNEY GENERAL
CONSUMER PROTECTION SECTION
TUCSON OFFICE

RE:

CIC 10-23107 MIGUEL

Tucson, Arizona 85713

I, Maria Beltran, am the head of La Paz Source and I am writing today to respond to the complaint dated August 17, 2011. On July 16, 2010 Mr. stepped into our office for a free consultation to learn about the services we provide. He spoke with a sales person who introduced our business to him on that day. At the end of the consultation he signed a contract for his property. When he came to us he was 4 months behind, already owing his lender \$4, 124.09. By October 20, 2010 a modification was obtained for Mr.

When he first arrived with us, his mortgage payment was \$1057.77 with a fixed interest rate of 5.75% in a Conventional Loan. After we assisted him with his loan modification his mortgage payment lowered to \$863.75 plus an escrow of \$153.97 with the reduced interest rate of 2% in a Step Loan.

Mr. must be in great amount of grief from losing his home. A home is more than a place one lives, it is an ambiance of family and comfortability. I am sorry for his loss, and I can see that a hard time as this can lead to resentment, even towards those who are not deserving. I would like to remind Mr. that he is NOT AWARE of the process of a Loan Modification and that the only insight he has is that of trying to obtain one. As he points his accusing finger at us, Mr. should remember that La Paz Source could have refused to service him. We accepted the challenge and did what was in our power to keep his property from entering into foreclosure and obtaining a Modification on his property. He will never know the feeling of completing everything that is asked of you, waiting on the bank to sway in your favor, and praying to God that this family does not lose their home.

Mr. states that the he was assured that his mortgage payment would be reduced to \$600.00 a month. First of all, our company knows better than to make any guarantees. Second, the contract he signed states that there are no guarantees. He never signed any documents with us where it states that his mortgage payment would go down to \$600.00. La Paz Source is not responsible for the sale of your property and I hope this letter has made that more than clear. You may think that you wasted your time with us, but let me tell you that it was us who put months of effort into your property, pressured the lenders to respond to us, and maintained plenty communication with you.

With everything being said, I want to make it very clear to Mr. that he is prolonging a matter in which he will not obtain any repayment of monies, compensation, or refund. And I wish to make him aware of the reason for which a reimbursement would be quite impossible. PLEASE REFFER TO THE CONTRACT SIGNED BY MR. Any reasonable person would investigate and spend time examining a company with whom they are considering signing a CONTRACT with. Let me assure you that La Paz Source does not make guarantees. We are NOT paid for the final results of a negotiation process; we are NOT paid to meet a client's expectations. We are paid for our time, and effort. See page 2 Section I(h). Also, we do not refund any money if the signed contract is not canceled within the 3 days after signing it. See page 5 Bullet 2.

I encourage him to save himself the time and trouble of persisting with this matter, for La Paz Source, LLC will not budge. If we were to be wrong then we would accept and come to terms with a client. But this is not a case in which we are in the wrong, on the contrary, we did not do anything wrong. In life there are just some people that cannot be pleased. Lucky for us, it is not our job to meet everyone's expectations or please everyone. It is our job to place time and effort into negotiating with the lender in hopes of obtaining a good Loan Modification deal for our clients.

We don't expect for this response to satisfy Mr. wants, but I would like to point out that this response has been honest and very matter of fact. We are responding because regardless of Mr. s thoughts, we are NOT a fraud. If he continues on with this, he will continue to get the same answer from me, "He will not obtain any repayment of monies, compensation, or refund." There is nothing more to be said.

Thank you Ms. J

Maria Beltran, La Paz Source, LLC.

Data

# **EXHIBIT G**

# **EXHIBIT G**

Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Inc.

Justice, Opportunity, Hope,

June 20, 2011

11-13457

Alondra Munoz La Paz Source, LLC 4750 North Black Canyon Hwy. Suite 302 Phoenix, AZ 85017

520884

RE: Demand for Loan Modification Payment Returned

Dear Ms. Munoz:

who sought your company's My office represents Mr. and Mrs. Jorge assistance with their loan modification. This letter is a demand that you return their payments to your company in the amount of \$2,360.

On June 14, 2010, my client signed a contract with La Paz Source, LLC in its Tucson office for loan modification services. On 8/21, 9/17, 10/4 and 11/10, your company received compensation from my client even though it had not fully performed the services my client purchased. This practice is illegal in Arizona, and violators are liable for actual and punitive damages, as well as attorney fees and costs.

Your company requested income information for my client's daughter and nephew even when you knew that neither of them lived with my client nor contributed to their expenses.

Your company also incorrectly told my client that they needed to be behind on their mortgage in order to obtain a loan modification. In reliance on your information, my client purposefully stopped paying their mortgage. You never told my client that not paying their mortgage could put their home at risk for foreclosure.

Additionally, you incorrectly told my client that their house was sold and they could not obtain a loan modification because they previously attempted to get a loan modification. We believe the above practices constitute consumer fraud.

Your company was not obligated to provide a specific result, but it did need to use its "best efforts" in providing loan modification services. For this reason, we also believe your company breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing which Arizona law has held to be implicit in every contract.

Pima County Office



520884

Alondra Munoz; La Paz Source, LLC To:

Demand for Loan Modification Payment Returned Re:

June 20, 2011 Page 2 Of 2

Please refund my client's payment of \$2,360 on or before July 1, 2011. Payment should be made to Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Inc.'s trust account. If we do not receive payment by that time, we will be forced to take other action against you, which may include a request for additional damages and attorney's fees.

PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY.

Sincerely,

Beverly Parker Attornéy at Law

Cc: Client

# **EXHIBIT H**

### EXHIBIT H



#### OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

TOM HORNE ATTORNEY GENERAL

#### PUBLIC ADVOCACY DIVISION **CONSUMER PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SECTION**

JEREMY T. SHORBE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL TELEPHONE: (520) 628 FACSIMILE: 520-628-CONSUMERINFOTUCSON@AZAG.GOV

December 12, 2011

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

La Paz Source L.L.C Attn: Francisco Ramos P.O Box 42181 Tucson, Arizona 85733

Dear Mr. Ramos and/or Ms. Beltran,

The Consumer Protection and Advocacy Section of this Office recently received a complaint involving La Paz Source L.L.C that suggests that your company may be in violation of the Federal Trade Commission's Mortgage Assistance Relief Services ("MARS") Rule that applies to nearly all persons providing loan modification or principal reduction services to homeowners. In addition, it appears that you may also be in violation of Arizona laws regarding foreclosure consultants.

Effective January 31, 2011, the MARS Rule prohibits nearly all persons providing loan modification services from requesting or receiving payment for their services (including processing services) until their customers have received and accepted loan modification offers from the customers' loan holder or servicer. You can find the text of the MARS Rule online at http://www.ftc.gov/os/fedreg/2010/december/ R911003mars.pdf.

Moreover, as you should already be aware, on July 29, 2010, providers of "foreclosure consultant" services in Arizona became subject to a new law that prohibits them from charging or collecting any fees prior to performing promised services. A.R.S. § The text of the foreclosure consultant law can be viewed at: 44-1378 et seg. http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp.

The Arizona Attorney General's Office has the authority to enforce both the Arizona "foreclosure consultant" ban on upfront fees, as well as the federal prohibition under the MARS Rule, either as a direct violation of that rule or, separately, as a violation of the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, A.R.S. § 44-1521, et seq. Be advised that this Office intends to use every available legal tool to enforce these laws and to take appropriate action for any acts or practices that violate these laws or the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act. The Act provides substantial civil sanctions, including civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation, restitution, injunctive relief and attorney's fees and costs.

I am including with this letter a complaint from the following consumer:

1		Name of Consumer	Complaint No.	
	1.	Hugo V	11-22331	

It appears that this consumer is entitled to recover the monies that La Paz Source L.L.C collected prior to obtaining a loan modification on behalf of that customer. Please either (1) reimburse this consumer and provide me with proof of said payment, or (2) provide a written explanation as to why La Paz Source L.L.C is not responsible for making said payment.

I would appreciate receiving a response from you within the time allotted to respond to the enclosed complaint. Please contact me should you have any questions.

- /wen

Sincerely,

Jeremy Shorbe Assistant Attorney General

JTS/dm

	U.S. Postal Service  CERRIFIED MAIL BECEPT  Contestignation visits on a receipt and a receipt fee (Endorsement Required)  Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)  Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)
n	D Total Postage & Fees   \$
ר ב ק	Sent To  Sirect, Api, No.; or PO-Box No.  Olly, State, ZiP+4
	PS Form (200), August 2005 2. See Goog Septon Instructions

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	•	
	SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY
	■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3, Also complete	A Signatura
	item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.  Print your name and address on the reverse	X Mall
	so that we can return the card to you.  Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece,	B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery
	or on the front if space permits.	
	1. Article Addressed to:	D. is delivery address different from item 1?  Yes If YES, enter different gaddress below:  No.
	CA PAZ SOURCE LLC Alm: Dranasco Ramos	10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1
	alm. Dranapeo ramos	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S
	PO100X 42181	1 2 3
	Tucson AZ 85733	3. Sevicesiyee  Certife Mall
		☐ Registered ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise ☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D.
	11-22331 JS/18V	4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)
	2. Article Number 7008 (Transfer from service label)	2810 0001 6546 3522
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·	monto.	102595-02-М-1540

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# **EXHIBIT I**

# EXHIBIT I

3. Identify and provide copies of all Documents that refer or relate to any relationship and/or agreement between La Paz Source, LLC and the entities described in Demand #2.

There is no such thing as an agreement or relationship between La Paz Source, LLC and the entities described in Demand #2. Maria Beltran and Francisco Ramos have never even met Felix Ortiz or Mauricio Urgante. Nor have either of them been to the Home Modification Services office.

4. Identify and Provide a copy of any business license, contractor's license, license with the Department of Financial Institutions or any other licenses issued to La Paz by the State of Arizona or any government entity within the State of Arizona. If none, please explain the authority under which La Paz conducted or conducts business in Arizona.

Limited Liability Company (find a certificate in disk 2)

#### Maria:

We are a responsible company and I am aware that there is a license that must be obtained in order to continue working in this field. I want to inform you that I have not been neglecting it, on the contrary, I have been preparing for that necessary license. Proof of my preparation to acquire the license is attached. I have completed a Mortgage Loan Originator course as well as a Mortgage Broker Licensing course. Once we have completed responding this investigative Demand I will schedule an exam date for my Mortgage Loan Originator License and will also schedule an exam date for my Mortgage Broker License in the next month.

5. Provide a copy of any license issued to La Paz by any government entity outside of Arizona. This includes, but is not limited to city, county, state, and federal agencies.

Aside from the LLC, there is no other license we have obtained.

6. Identify Your principal place(s) of business.

Phoenix Location: 4750 N. Black Canyon Hwy., Ste. #302 Phoenix, AZ 85017

Tucson Location: 2012 E. Broadway Blvd., Ste. #101 Tucson, AZ 85719

# **EXHIBIT J**





#### INVOICE

Office 602 774 2500 Office 520 463 6242 Info@maha4u.com

MAKING ALL HOMES AFFORDABLE

www.makingallhomesaffordable.com

CUSTOMER IN	FORMATION
Customer Name	Rep. Name FRANCTS10
Address	Date 10 / 10 / 10
City, State, Zip	Home Phone
e-mail	. Cell Phone

1				AMOUNT		
	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION  1 MAHA DIY Loan Modifi		V 7163 who have 0		\$1411.71	
	(Customer technical e-mail st	ipport available for the first 3 m	Original Property and Control of the		art to the state of the state o	
1	PAYMENT TERMS	(Please select your paymen	t plan by writing your	SUBTOTAL	\$	
	PAYMENT TENNO	name and placing your initia	1	(9.3%) <b>TAX</b>	\$ / 6 / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /	1.00
	1 Payment 1 Paymen of \$1,489.55 + Tax	2 Paymente 1st Payment Today 2nd Payment In 16 Daya	9 Payments 1 tel Payment Today 2nd Payment in 45 Day4 3nd Payment in 60 Days	TOTAL	\$ 16173.71	1,648
		2 Paymonts of \$780.00 + Tax (Your total \$1,550.00 + Tax)	3 Fayments of \$575.00 + TeX (Your total \$1,725.00 + TeX)	M	HA	

#### DISCLAIMER DISCLOSU

My Natho

My instale

When purchasing this product, the purchaset, herein mentioned as the "Client", cartifies that he or she agrees and fully understands the following:

- Client agrees that he or site has reviewed the program and has decided that title software is what he or ahn needs at this time for tilefler Loen Modification.
- Ottent fully understands that after the purchase of this product he or she is not smitted to any type of refund regardless of the outcome of the Loan Modification.
- Cilani understands that a occossibilities Modification depends on many factors such as: Londer's willing these to cooperate and demonstration of financial hardship to the bank.
- Offent understands that the "MAHA Do it Yourself" DIY program is a system that allows the client / purchaser to structure his or her loan modification by themselves, MAHA representatives or associates do not participate in the proparation of the client's loan modification process,
- Offent understands that a Lean Modification is time consuming and that no sai time frame can be given.

My Name

My Initials

- Chent is aware that the galls from his or her bank to collect any post due payments will continue regardioss of the modification process.
- Quant understands that MAHA's representatives are not attorneys and / or they do not provide legal univide.
- · Client has not relead on any representation from MAHA other than those explicitly and forth in writing as a part of the transaction.
- Olingi waives any distins of undue influence, durges, or undonediate ability

My Initial

- Client understands that MANA is simply a golde to properly electuring a Loan Modification package and is not responsible for any of the information that he or size may other.
- Client understands that it is his or her maponability to continue any necessary tolkow ups with the bank.
- Client understands that MAHA is not 190% guaranteeing a successful Loan Modification and releases MAHA from any liability in case that a Loan Modification is not authored.
- · Ollegt contilien that he or she received an explenation in spenish by a MAHA representative, and understood the information given throughout this contract,
- Client understands that the "MAHA CITY Program" is written in anglish and so are his or har decuments with the limited institution that holds that mortgage. Client slab understands that he or sha will sock positioned to branklet this program with achieve that hely understands to empirish language.
- Client will have accept to their MAMA program indeficiely, however locknicel support will only be available for the first 3 months, after these 3 months have elapsed a charge of \$99,00 a month will apply to have accept to this service.
- Torchrischi support includes the ability to ask questions and receive prompt, answers via someli to our stell of experienced agents.
- · Our agents aids the customer in the understanding of the MAHA program.
- The MAHA wabsite offers it's opsiomers an area called "Atiditional Tools". In this area MAHA provides a referral service from different independent businesses which in turn, offer brief own services & products, and these services and products are not soluted in the price of the MAHA program. These separate businesses and entities are recommended by MAHA, but their products & services need to be paid for by the customer.

CUSTOMER NAME

SIGNATURE

# EXHIBIT K

# EXHIBIT K



#### OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

TOM HORNE ATTORNEY GENERAL

### PUBLIC ADVOCACY DIVISION CONSUMER PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SECTION

JEREMY T. SHORBE
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
TELEPHONE: (520) 628FACSIMILE: 520-628CONSUMERINFOTUCSON@AZAG.GOV

March 30, 2012

### VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND EMAIL AND FAX

La Placita Multi Services, L.L.C Attn: Maria Beltran and/or Arturo Gomez Leon 4072 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Tucson, Arizona 85711

<u>LaPlacitaMultiServicesllc@Yahoo.Com</u>

Fax: 520.790.3310

Dear Mr. Leon and/or Ms. Beltran,

This is the second such letter that our office has issued to a company run by Maria Beltran. Our office sent the last letter of this nature to La Paz Source, LLC on December 12, 2011. You have been twice put on notice. The Consumer Protection and Advocacy Section of this Office recently received a complaint involving La Placita Multi Services, L.L.C that suggests that your company may be in violation of the Federal Trade Commission's Mortgage Assistance Relief Services ("MARS") Rule that applies to nearly all persons providing loan modification or principal reduction services to homeowners. In addition, it appears that you may also be in violation of Arizona laws regarding foreclosure consultants.

Effective January 31, 2011, the MARS Rule prohibits nearly all persons providing loan modification services from requesting or receiving payment for their services (including processing services) until their customers have received and accepted loan modification offers from the customers' loan holder or servicer. You can find the text of the MARS Rule online at http://www.ftc.gov/os/fedreg/2010/december/R911003mars.pdf.

Moreover, as you should already be aware, on July 29, 2010, providers of "foreclosure consultant" services in Arizona became subject to a new law that prohibits them from charging or collecting any fees prior to performing promised services. A.R.S. § 44-1378 et seq. The text of the foreclosure consultant law can be viewed at: <a href="http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp">http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp</a>.

The Arizona Attorney General's Office has the authority to enforce both the Arizona "foreclosure consultant" ban on upfront fees, as well as the federal prohibition under the MARS Rule, either as a direct violation of that rule or, separately, as a violation of the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, A.R.S. § 44-1521, et seq. Be advised that this Office intends to use every

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available legal tool to enforce these laws and to take appropriate action for any acts or practices that violate these laws or the Arizona Consumer Fraud Act. The Act provides substantial civil sanctions, including civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation, restitution, injunctive relief and attorney's fees and costs.

I am including with this letter a complaint from the following consumer:

1		Name of Consumer	Complaint No.
	1.	Frank V	12-4162

It appears that this consumer is entitled to recover the monies that La Placita Multi Services, L.L.C collected prior to obtaining a loan modification on behalf of that customer. Please either (1) reimburse this consumer and provide me with proof of said payment, or (2) provide a written explanation as to why La Placita Multi Services, L.L.C is not responsible for making said payment.

I would appreciate receiving a response from you within the time allotted to respond to the enclosed complaint. Please contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Shorbe

Assistant Attorney General

JTS/bv

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION  Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.  Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.  Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.  1. Article Addressed to:  LA PLACITA MULTI SERVICES, LLC  ATTN: MARIA BELTRAM	A. Signlett A. Agent Addressee:  B. Received by (Printed Name)  C. Date of belivery  D. Is delivery address different from item 1?  If YES, enter delivery address below:	
10050N, AZ 85711	3. Service Type  Certified Mail	
	0780 0000 2644 7112	
Z. Altico (value service label)	102595-02-M-1540	
PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic	Return Receipt	